



Virginia Manufacturers Association
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National climate change experts to speak at September VMA-DEQ Environmental Conference

<http://www.vamanufacturers.com/environment/index.php>

RICHMOND, VA – The Virginia Manufacturers Association (VMA) in partnership with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), is pleased to announce the addition of two dynamic speakers for the 4th Annual **Virginia Industry Environmental Conference**, September 13th and 14th. **Dr. Patrick J. Michaels**, VA State Climatologist, CATO Institute Fellow and Research Professor at the University of Virginia; and **Thomas S. Mullikin**, an Environmental Attorney with the Charlotte- based law firm Moore & Van Allen, will each give their unique perspectives on global climate change.

Dr. Michaels, an outspoken but widely known expert on global warming issues, has consistently addressed climate change for many years and attempted to debunk common myths about global warming. In his position as Virginia's State Climatologist, the label of "global warming dissenter" has put him at odds with many state officials, his fellow UVA professors, and scientists nationwide. Michaels, who has not fallen in line with the steady drumbeat of prevailing climate change theory, sparks the interest of many on both sides of the issue. By challenging the mainstream "global warming establishment" with compelling research and unconventional ideas, his findings and theories have not gone unnoticed in an ever-increasing public debate. According to *Nature* magazine, Michaels is one of the most popular lecturers in the nation on the subject of global warming.

Michaels believes that the evidence just does not support a solid case that humans have any control over global warming and that even the most drastic change in our use of fossil fuels would potentially have no noticeable effect on the natural cycles of global climate change. Though he believes we should be good stewards of our environment and work to reduce harmful pollution of all kinds, he asserts that the facts about global warming have been greatly skewed and distorted.

Mr. Mullikin, who led a team of researchers and environmental experts late last year on an expedition to Antarctica to study the effects of climate change on the polar regions, describes what he saw there as "truly remarkable – and disturbing." He recently produced a video documentary entitled, *Climate Change: Global Problems, Global Solutions*, which explores his team's findings and brings a fresh perspective to the global warming debate. While contending that the "warming trend continues inexorably forward as greenhouse gas emissions rise to unprecedented levels", Mullikin believes we must approach the problem carefully and responsibly.

Interestingly, his recognition of the need for global warming solutions is balanced with his acknowledgement that American manufacturing is currently the cleanest and safest it has ever been. Mullikin believes that manufacturing and heavy industry are often unjustly vilified as two of the leading agents responsible for global warming. He asserts that domestic companies face an increasing array of

environmental regulations to which they must adhere, while competing companies from foreign countries pollute with impunity. Mullikin believes that American manufacturing is placed at a competitive disadvantage, and our future generations could be forced to bear an unfair burden of environmental remediation, coupled with the loss of global manufacturing dominance. He insists that our response to global warming must be science-based and fair, with equitable solutions implemented across the globe, focusing on the worst offenders regardless of economic status.

For more information on the VMA-DEQ 4th Annual Virginia Industry Environmental Conference please go to <http://www.vamanufacturers.com/environment/> or call Patrick at (804) 643-7489, ext 16.

TO REGISTER NOW... <http://www.vamanufacturers.com/environment/register.php>

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Speaker Biographical Information:

Dr. Patrick Michaels...

As a senior fellow at the Cato Institute and a Research Professor of Environmental Sciences at the University of Virginia, Dr. Michaels' accomplishments are none to few. He is a past president of the American Association of State Climatologists and was program chair for the Committee on Applied Climatology of the American Meteorological Society. Michaels is a contributing author and reviewer of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. He was an author of the 2003 climate science "Paper of the Year" awarded by the Association of American Geographers, for the demonstration that urban heat-related mortality declined significantly as cities became warmer.

His writing has been published in the major scientific journals, including *Climate Research*, *Climatic Change*, *Geophysical Research Letters*, *Journal of Climate*, *Nature*, and *Science*; and his articles have appeared also in the *Washington Post*, the *Washington Times*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, *Houston Chronicle*, and the *Journal of Commerce*. He has appeared on ABC, NPR's *All Things Considered*, PBS, Fox News Channel, CNN, MSNBC, CNBC, BBC and Voice of America. He holds A.B. and S.M. degrees in biological sciences and plant ecology from the University of Chicago, and he received his Ph.D. in ecological climatology from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 1979.

Mr. Thomas Mullikin...

He leads his firm's Government, Policy, and Regulatory Affairs Team, focusing on corporate compliance, regulatory relations and legislative representation. His career spans more than twenty years and includes key legislative staff roles, lobbying activities, extensive environmental legal representation and management of environmental issue campaigns for industry. He has also orchestrated strategic responses to environmental crises including remediation and compliance matters and multi-national agreements governing the treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste. He has served on state and congressional staffs as well as an advisor and campaign manager to senior members of Congress (including Fritz Hollings and John Spratt) and U.S. Presidential candidates (including Al Gore and John McCain). In addition, he is the former chief counsel and vice president of public affairs for the world's largest environmental services provider.

In January 2000, the Governor of South Carolina presented Mr. Mullikin with the Order of the Palmetto – South Carolina's highest civilian honor – for excellence in community service. Mr. Mullikin co-authored a program that received the Grassroots Initiative Award from the National Public Affairs

Council for its innovative community partnership that united industry and citizen groups in South Central Los Angeles. He has also addressed domestic and international conferences on topics including environmental law, government representation, and political organization.